## NEWS RELEASE

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## GREATER CINCINNATI WATER WORKS AND CINCINNATI PARK BOARD ENCOURAGE WATERING TREES AND PLANTS

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With a hot, dry summer behind us, and little rain forecasted, Greater Cincinnati Water Works (GCWW) and the Cincinnati Park Board want to encourage people to preserve their landscaping investments by watering trees, bushes, and plants.

"Your watering efforts should focus on trees and shrubs," states Dave Gamstetter, Supervisor of Urban Forestry with the Cincinnati Park Board. "Although trees and shrubs may not show problems as lawns are right now, they are actually more vulnerable to long-term damage. Trees and shrubs may not look like they are suffering, but long-term damage may not show up till next year. Lawns may look bad, but they will go dormant and may not suffer long-term damage.

"Trees, shrubs, and perennials should be watered at least once a week with one inch of water. You can place a cup under the tree or shrub and water until you have an inch of water in the cup.

"The best time to water is early mornings," according to Gamstetter. "It is best to use a drip hose or low-volume sprinkler. But trees and shrubs will be happy to get water any time they can."

"We are fortunate to have a plentiful supply of water which allows us to provide unrestricted water service to our customers through the driest weather," said Connie Roesch, GCWW Superintendent of Commercial Services.

Regarding sewer bills, Roesch explained that, for customers of Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati (MSD), customers won't pay extra sewer charges for watering landscaping or other summer activities such as washing cars or filling pools. Sewer charges are calculated on winter water use and they don't increase during the summer.

Greater Cincinnati Water Works serves 1.1 million customers. Their service area includes the City of Cincinnati, most of Hamilton County, Boone County, and parts of Warren and Butler Counties. GCWW is a service of the City of Cincinnati.

The Cincinnati Parks are Everybody's Backyard, where citizens can be active and nurtured by nature in our 5 regional parks, 70 neighborhood parks, 34 natural areas and 52 playgrounds.